

MIDWAY®

MORTAL KOMBAT™

COLLECTOR'S
EDITION
COMIC BOOK

\$3.00





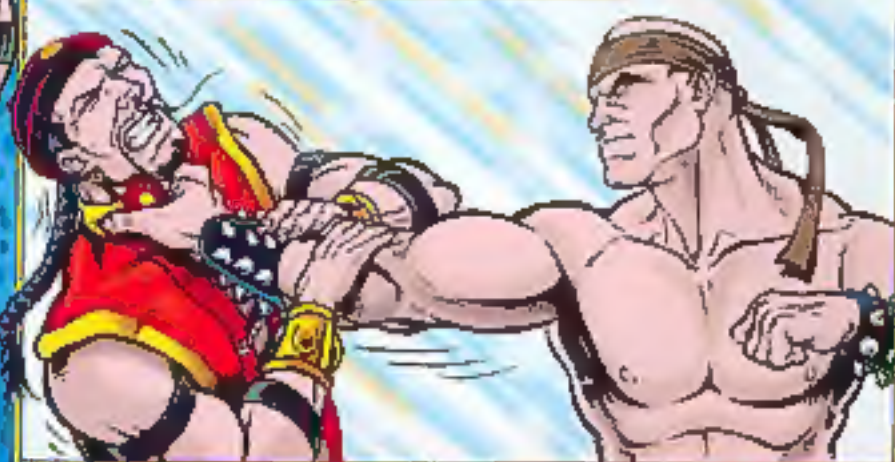
THE SHAOLIN TOURNAMENT FOR MARTIAL ARTS WAS FOR AGES A COMPETITION OF HONOR AND GLORY. WARRIORS FROM AROUND THE WORLD WERE INVITED TO TAKE PART. SHANG TSUNG WAS ONE OF THOSE WARRIORS. UPON ENTERING THE TOURNAMENT HE IMMEDIATELY WON THE TITLE OF GRAND CHAMPION.

BUT, UNKNOWN TO THE SHAOLIN WHO WERE HOSTS OF THE CONTEST, EACH OF TSUNG'S VICTORIES ADDED TO A HIDDEN DARK AND DESTRUCTIVE POWER.

EVIL AS TSUNG WAS CURSED BY HIS GODS AND TO APPEASE THEM MUST NOT ONLY TAKE THE LIFE OF AN OPPONENT, HE MUST ALSO TAKE THE SOUL. THROUGH THIS UNHOLY CEREMONY IS SHANG TSUNG ABLE TO KEEP HIS YOUTH.



UNTIL THE ARRIVAL OF KUNG LAO, A NOBLE AND MIGHTY SHAOLIN MONK. HIS STRENGTH AND SPEED PROVE TOO MUCH FOR THE OVER-CONFIDENT SHANG TSUNG. LAO WINS THE FIGHT AND THE GRAND CHAMPION TITLE THAT TSUNG HELD SO DESPERATELY.



YEARS LATER, AFTER THE MYSTERIOUS DEATH OF ONE OF THE THREE TOURNAMENT GRANDMASTERS, SHANG TSUNG WOULD RETURN, PREMATURELY AGED AND WEAKENED FROM THE EFFECTS OF FAILING TO APPEASE HIS GODS. TSUNG INVITES AN OUTWISDER AND FORMER FUGITIVE TO COMPETE...



HIS NAME IS GORO. HIS SPEED WAS INCREDIBLE. HIS STRENGTH UNMATCHED. AND ALTHOUGH KUNG LAO BATTLED LONG AND HARD—GORO WOULD PROVE THE BEST OF THE TWO.

FOR THIS ANCIENT TOURNAMENT, THE VICTORY MARKS THE END OF AN ERA...



AND THE START OF A TREASONOUS NEW BEGINNING...



...ONE THAT WILL ALIENATE THE GUARDIAN FROM THEIR OWN TOURNAMENT AND GUARANTEE BRINGING TO AN END THE IMMORTALITY HE SO GREATLY DESIRES.



500 YEARS LATER

THE HONAN PROVINCE,
PRESENT DAY CHINA.

THROUGH HIS ENTIRE LIFE, LIU KANG HAS HEARD
STORIES AND RUMORS ABOUT SHANG TSUNG'S
MARTIAL ARTS TOURNAMENT. HE IS WELL AWARE
OF THE EVIL BEHIND THE CONTEST AND MUST NOW
DECIDE WHETHER TO ACCEPT THE INVITATION HE
RECENTLY RECEIVED.

I UNDERSTAND YOU
HAVE REQUESTED PERMISSION
TO COMPETE IN SHANG TSUNG'S
TOURNAMENT.

YES MASTER
WU... I HAVE BEEN
ASKED TO ATTEND.

YOU MUST NOT
OVERLOOK THE TRUE
MOTIVE OF TSUNG'S INVITA-
TION. IN HIS EYES YOUR
DEFEAT AT THE HANDS OF
GORO WOULD MOST CERTAINLY
PUT AN END TO THE
THREAT OF THE SHIAOLIN
EVER RETAKING THE
CONTEST.

BUT, GORO
HAS GROWN OVER
CONFIDENT.

AS WOULD
ANY WARRIOR WITH
A 500 YEAR STRETCH
OF VICTORIES.

YOUR MIND AND
SPIRIT MUST WORK AS
ONE TO WALK WITH THE WIND.
THESE ATTRIBUTES WILL
ENABLE YOU TO PUT AN
END TO SHANG TSUNG'S
TREACHERY.

I GRANT YOU
PERMISSION LIU KANG.
THE SHIAOLIN DEPEND
ON YOUR VICTORY.

I WILL
NOT FAIL...

THAT IS MY
PROMISE!

TWO WEEKS LATER.

JOHNNY KINGS.

JOHNNY CAGE, MARTIAL ARTS ACADEMY STAR AND GOON-TO-BE COMPETITOR IN SHANGHAI PERAZI'S TOURNAMENT, IS READY TO BOARD ONE OF TENG'S SAIL SHIPS FOR THE FIRST FEW WEEKS THE COMPETITION IS ALL HE COULD THINK ABOUT.

WILL YOU RELAX, CHUCK?

IT HAS ALSO BEEN ON THE MINDS OF HIS AGENT AND PERSONAL SECRETARY.

LOOK JOHNNY, ALL I'M SAYIN' IS MAYBE YOU SHOULD JUST RECONSIDER THIS TOURNAMENT THING LOOK AT THAT BOAT. YOU CAN'T GET ON THAT HUNK OF JUNK. YOU'RE A COMMERCITY. YOU'RE LOOKING AT 20 MIL THIS YEAR. YOU WANNA RISK THAT?

JOHNNY YOU'VE GOT TO BE BACK BY THE 15TH. YOU'RE SCHEDULED TO START SHOOTING IRON CLAW ON THE 17TH AND YOU HAVEN'T EVEN READ THE SCRIPT.

CHON JOHNNY, THESE PEOPLE COULD BE CRAZY. THIS TOURNAMENT ISN'T SANCTIONED BY ANY MARTIAL ARTS ORGANIZATION AND I CAN'T FIND ONE PERSON WHOSE EVEN HEARD OF THE FRIGGIN' THING.

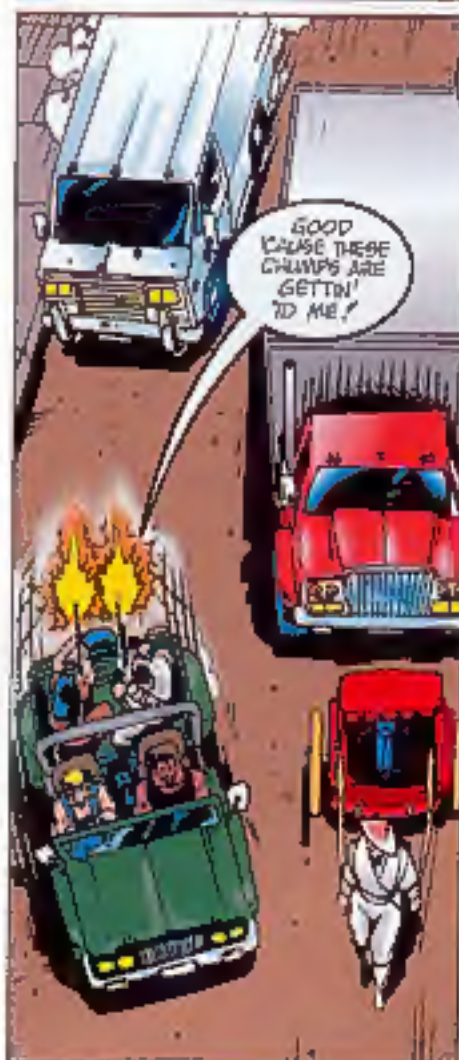
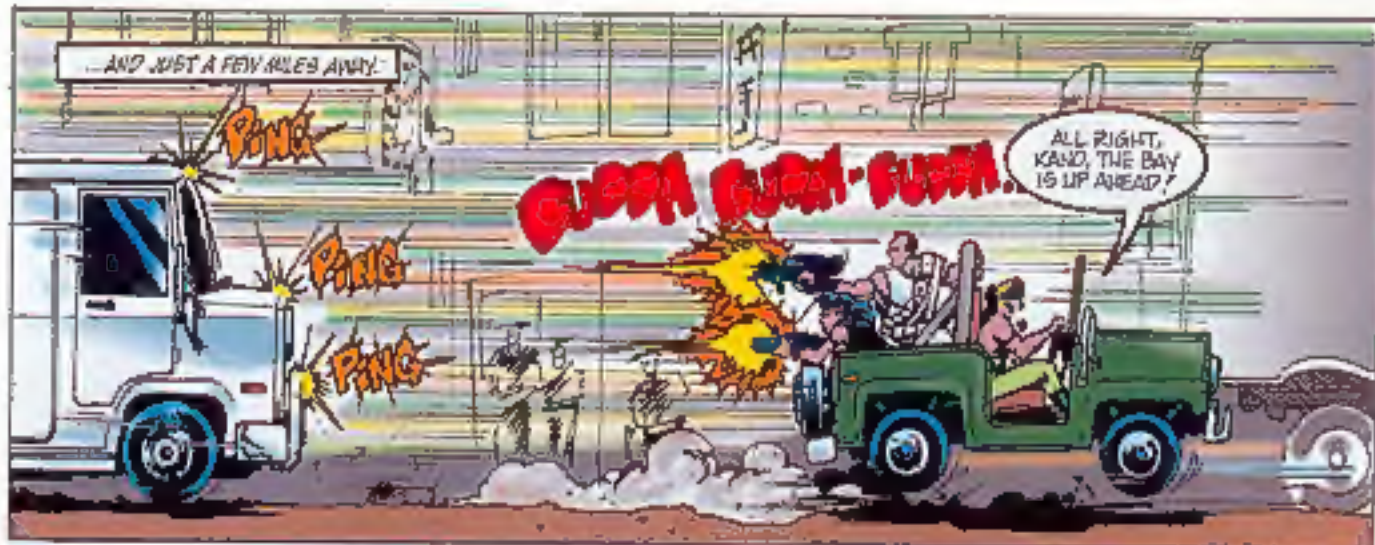
JUST RECONSIDER?

I'LL BE BACK IN TWO WEEKS. I PROMISE. THESE ARE QUALITY PEOPLE. CHUCK TRUST ME.

YEAH, JUST DON'T GET HIT IN THE FACE.

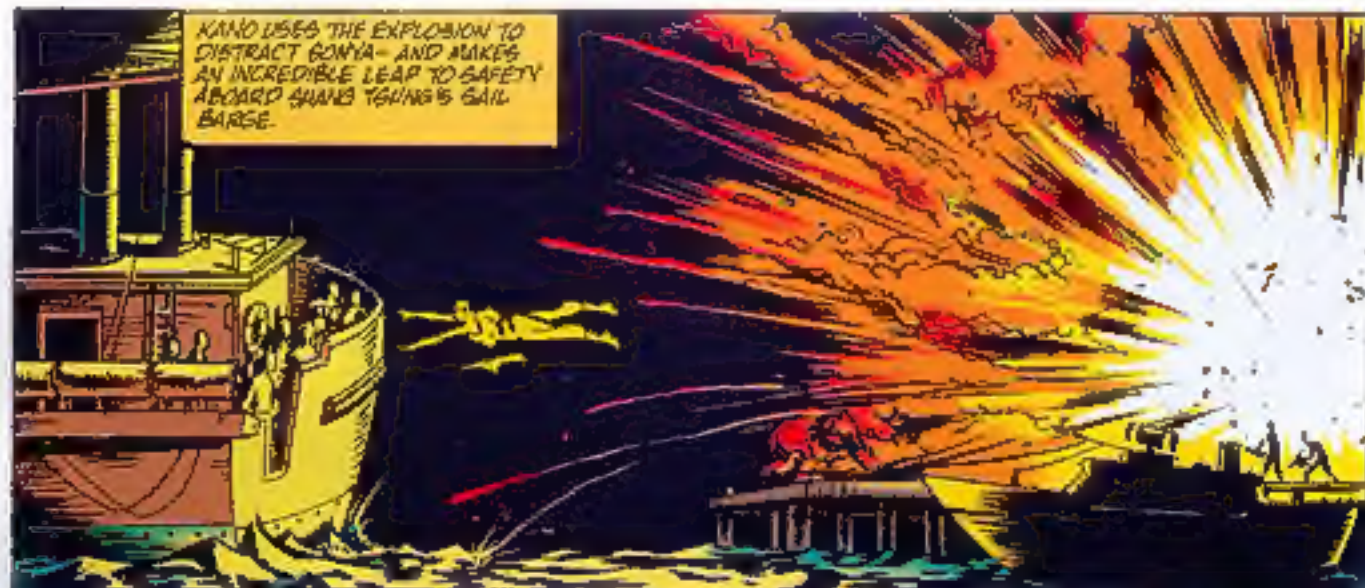
HEY, WHO WOULD HIT JOHNNY CAGE? EVERYBODY LOVES ME!

NOPE.









KANO USES THE EXPLOSION TO DISTRACT GONYA - AND MAKES AN INCREDIBLE LEAP TO SAFETY ABOARD SHANG TSUNG'S SAIL BARGE.



I CAN'T BELIEVE HE GOT AWAY.

WHAT AN ODD ASSORTMENT OF CHARACTERS. THAT SURE ISN'T THE REST OF THE BLACK DRAGON ON THAT SHIP.



I WONDER WHERE IT'S HEADING?

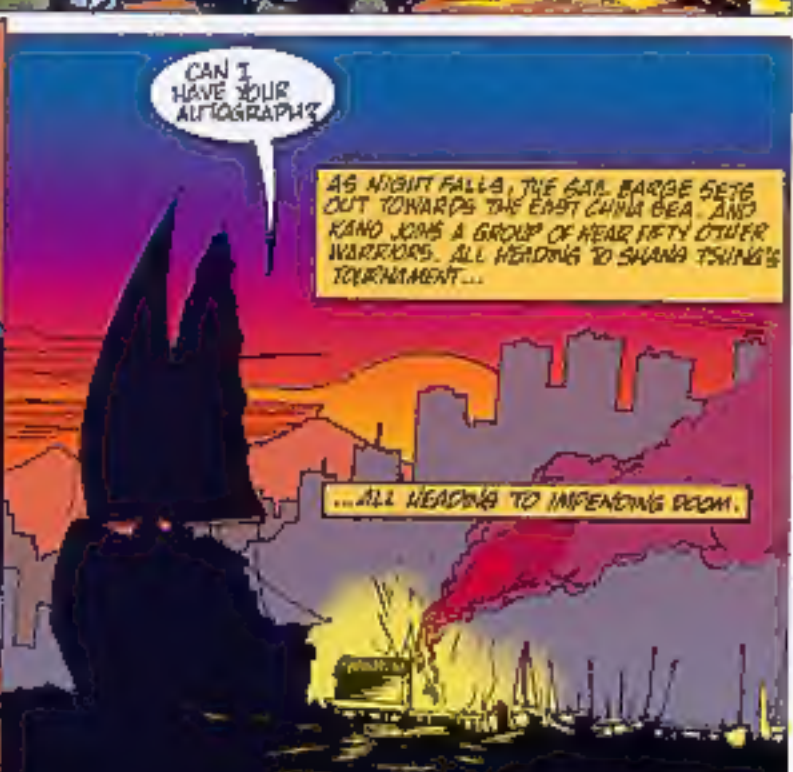
NOT VERY FAR IF WE OPEN FIRE.

NO! WE MIGHT HIT A PASSENGER! I'LL RACED AHEAD FOR A SPEEDER BOAT. WE'LL LET THAT FLOATING JUNK PILE SAIL FURTHER OUT BEFORE WE INTERCEPT.



DUDE, WAS THAT REAL?

NO, IT'S AN ILLUSION... HEY, YOU'RE JOHNNY CAGE!



CAN I HAVE YOUR AUTOGRAPH?

AS NIGHT FALLS, THE SAIL BARGE SETS OUT TOWARDS THE EAST CHINA SEA. AND KANO JOINS A GROUP OF NEAR FIFTY OTHER WARRIORS. ALL HEADING TO SHANG TSUNG'S TOURNAMENT...

...ALL HEADING TO IMPENDING DEATH.

DEEP IN THE MOUNTAIN VASTNESS OF RUHJ, JAPAN, SHANG TSUNG TRAVERSES THROUGH STRANGE LANDS TO DELIVER A PERSONAL INVITATION.

RAIDEN! GOD OF THUNDER, HEAR THESE WORDS!

I HAVE TRAVELLED THROUGH YOUR LANDS, BROKEN YOUR LANGUAGE, AND YOUR RELIGIONS TO DELIVER THIS MESSAGE

I ASK OF YOU ONCE MORE...

...ACCEPT THIS INVITATION AND COMPETE IN MY GREAT AND NOBLE TOURNAMENT! OR DO YOU FEAR THE DANGERS OF MORTAL COMBAT?!

I FEAR NO MORTAL!!

AND YOUR TOURNAMENT IS NO MORE GREAT AND NOBLE THAN THE DE-CREPIT BODY YOUR SPIRIT POSSESSES!

I HAVE LONG WATCHED YOUR PRACTICES SINGING TRINDY! YOU ARE NOTHING BUT A PEASANT SORCERER!

I ACCEPT YOUR INVITATION AND GIVE YOU THIS WARNING...

ALL WHO OPPOSE RAIDEN WILL BE CRUSHED!

YOUR ACCEPTANCE IS WELCOMED GREAT RAIDEN. ON... AND PLEASE REMEMBER THIS TOURNAMENT TAKES PLACE IN MY DOMAIN, UNDER MY RULE.

AND ON THE EAST CHINA SEA, SHANG
TAUNG'S SAIL SAGGIE CONTINUES TO
TREK TOWARDS THE TORNAMENTS
OF SET POSITION

C'NON
CAGE
SAY IT!

"I'LL BE
BACK!"

THAT
WASNT MY
MOVIE!

GET UP LAGE!
YOU GOT NO STUNT
MEN TO TAKE HTS
FOR YA HERE!

I DO MY
OWN STUNTS!

I'D SAY THE MOVIE
STAR IS UNFAIRLY
OUT NUMBERED.

WHO THE
HECK ARE
YOU?

MY FRIENDS CALL
ME LIU XANG YOU
ARE NOT A FRIEND

THANKS.

THAT'S ALL
I NEEDED

A MOMENT OF DISTRACTION
IS ALL THE STAR NEEDS

TO DELIVERING
INTENTED SHADOW
XIP.

CRACK!

AND BEFORE ANY OF KANG'S NEW
ROUND FRIENDS CAN JOIN THE FIGHT

BOOM!!



LIU KANG FIGHTS



THE NEXT TIME WE DO ANY
FIGHTING WILL BE AT THE
TOURNAMENT.

AND IT MAY ALSO BE
AGAINST EACH OTHER



WATCH YER BACK MR
HOLLYWOOD CAUSE YOU
JUST MADE ME YOUR
WORST ENEMY!

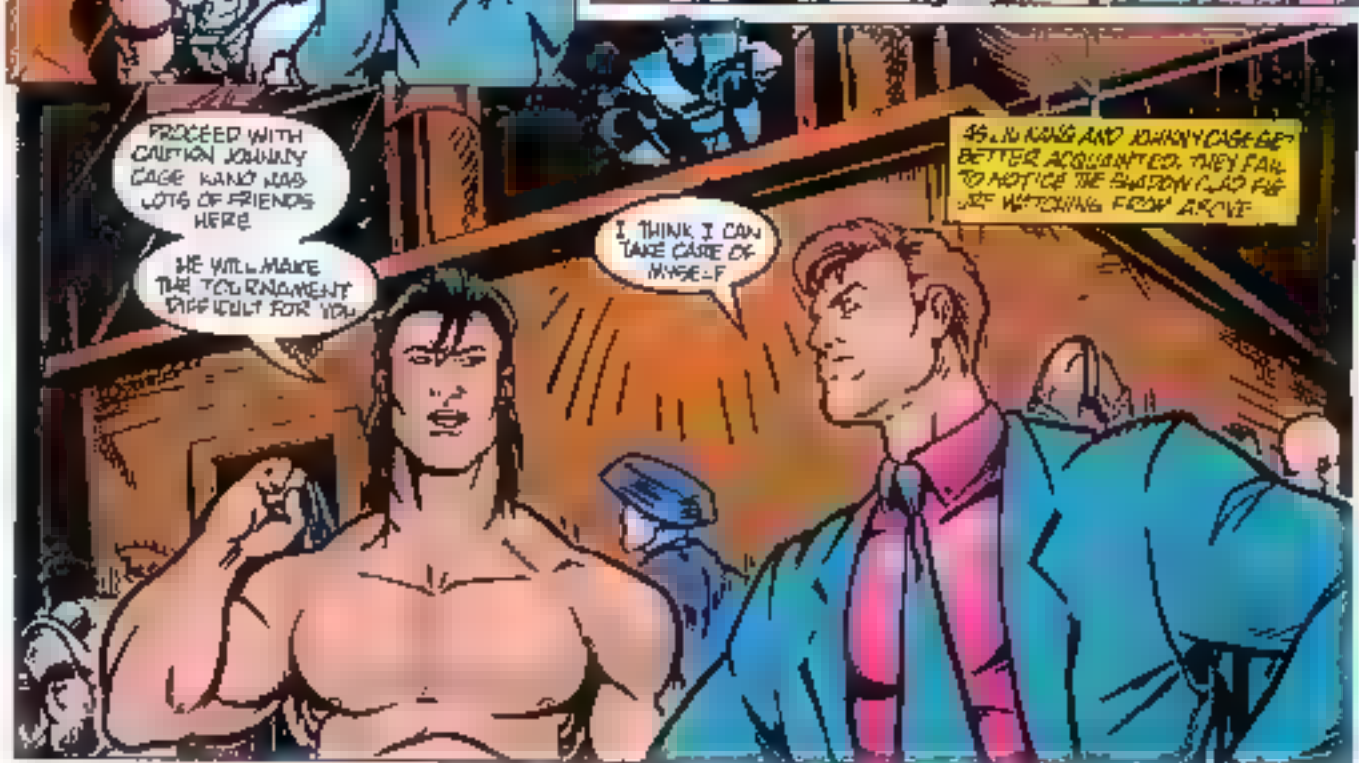


PROCEED WITH
CAUTION JOHNNY
CAGE KANG HAS
LOTS OF FRIENDS
HERE

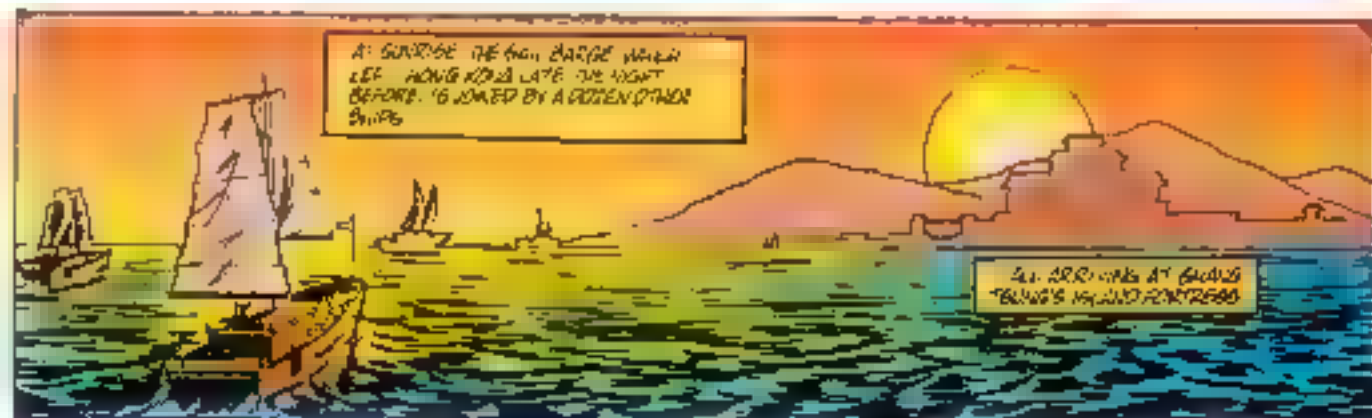
WE WILL MAKE
THE TOURNAMENT
DIFFICULT FOR YOU

I THINK I CAN
TAKE CARE OF
MYSELF

AS LIU KANG AND JOHNNY CAGE GET
BETTER ACQUAINTED, THEY FAIL
TO NOTICE THE SHADOW CLAW FIG
IS WATCHING FROM ABOVE







AT DUSK THE HIGH BARGE WHICH
LEFT HONG KONG LATE THE NIGHT
BEFORE, IS JOINED BY A DOZEN OTHER
SHIPS.

ALL ARRIVING AT GAIUS
TUNG'S ISLAND FORTRESS.



AFTER A DAY OF REST AND TRAINING
THEY ARE GREETED BY THE ISLAND'S
EMPEROR AND THE "TOURNAMENT" IS
YOUR GRAND CHAMPION.

WELCOME WARRIORS
TO THE GREATEST OF
ALL MARTIAL ARTS
TOURNAMENTS.



YOU HAVE ALL
TRAVELED GREAT
DISTANCES TO BE HERE
I HOPE I PROVE
WELL WORTH IT.

NOW LET ME
INTRODUCE THE NEWEST
ENTRY INTO OUR
CONTEST.



IT SEEMS
BLADE

WE FOUND HER
FOLLOWING ONE OF
MY SLIPS TO THIS
SACRED ISLAND.

LIKE ALL OF YOU HER
LIFE DEPENDS ON HER
PERFORMANCE IN THE TOURNAMENT.

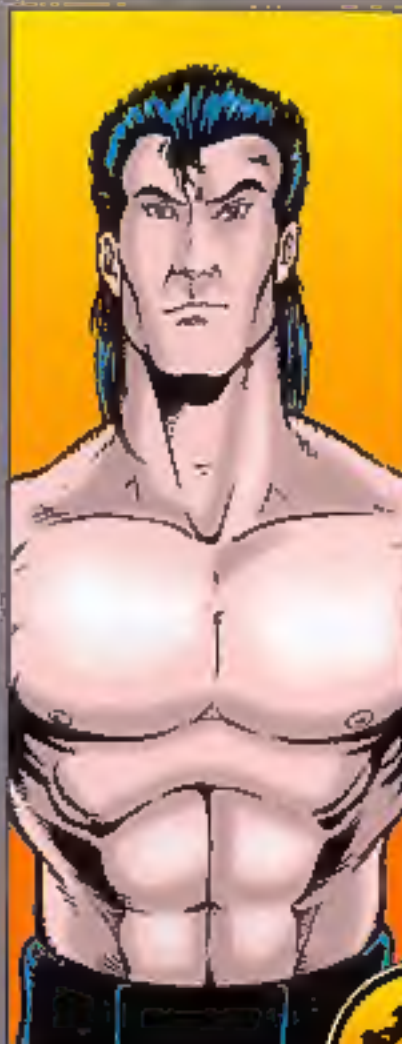


BUT SO DO THE
LIVES OF HER COM-
RANONS.



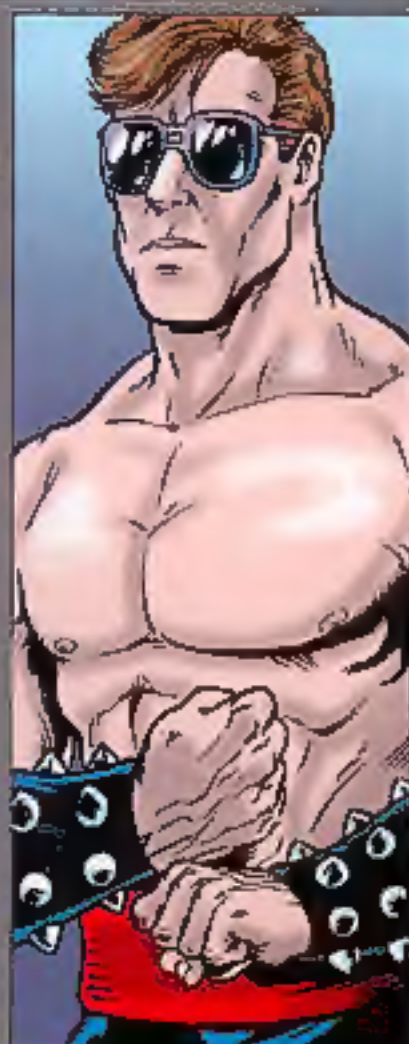
LIU KANG

AGE: 24
HEIGHT: 5' 10"
WEIGHT: 185
HAIR: BLACK
EYES: BROWN
LEGAL STATUS:
CITIZEN OF THE
PEOPLES REPUBLIC
OF CHINA
KNOWN RELATIVES:
LEE KANG, FATHER
(DECEASED)
LIN KANG, MOTHER
(DECEASED)
CHOW KANG, BROTHER
(WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN)
BIRTHPLACE:
HONAN PROVINCE,
CHINA
OCCUPATION:
SHAOLIN MONK,
FISHERMAN



JOHNNY CAGE

REAL NAME: JOHN CARLTON
AGE: 29
HEIGHT: 6' 1"
WEIGHT: 200
HAIR: BROWN
EYES: BLUE
LEGAL STATUS:
CITIZEN OF THE
UNITED STATES
KNOWN RELATIVES:
ROBERT CARLTON,
FATHER
ROSE CARLTON,
MOTHER
REBECCA CARLTON,
SISTER
CINDY FORD, WIFE
(DIVORCED)
BIRTHPLACE:
VENICE, CALIFORNIA
OCCUPATION: ACTOR



KANO

AGE: 35
HEIGHT: 6'
WEIGHT: 205
HAIR: BLACK
EYES: 1 BROWN,
1 INFRA-RED (BUILT
INTO METAL IMPLANT)
LEGAL STATUS:
DEPORTED FROM
JAPAN, WANTED
CRIMINAL IN 35
COUNTRIES
KNOWN RELATIVES:
NONE — WAS
ORPHANED AS A
SMALL CHILD BY AN
AMERICAN WOMAN
IN TOKYO
BIRTHPLACE:
UNKNOWN
OCCUPATION:
CRIMINAL MEMBER OF
THE BLACK DRAGON
ORGANIZATION



SONYA BLADE

AGE: 26
HEIGHT: 5' 10"
WEIGHT: 140
HAIR: BROWN
EYES: BLUE
LEGAL STATUS:
CITIZEN OF THE
UNITED STATES
KNOWN RELATIVES:
MAJ. HERMAN BLADE,
FATHER
ERICA BLADE,
MOTHER
DANIEL BLADE, TWIN
BROTHER (DECEASED)
BIRTHPLACE:
AUSTIN, TEXAS
OCCUPATION:
LIEUTENANT IN THE
U.S. ARMY, MEMBER
OF A SPECIAL
PARA-MILITARY
POLICE FORCE



RAIDEN

AGE: ETERNAL
HEIGHT: 7'
WEIGHT: 350
HAIR: BLACK
EYES: NONE
LEGAL STATUS:
DEITY — DOES NOT
APPLY
KNOWN RELATIVES:
NONE
BIRTHPLACE: NONE
OCCUPATION:
THUNDER GOD



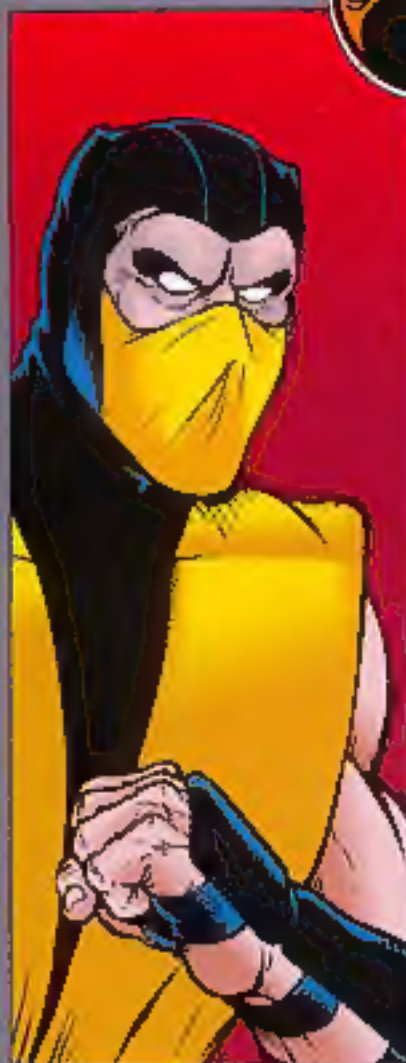
SUB-ZERO

REAL NAME:
UNKNOWN
AGE: 32
HEIGHT: 6' 2"
WEIGHT: 210
HAIR: BLACK
EYES: BROWN
LEGAL STATUS: NONE
HOWEVER RESIDES
SOMEWHERE IN CHINA
KNOWN RELATIVES:
NONE
BIRTHPLACE:
UNKNOWN
OCCUPATION:
LIFE LONG MEMBER OF
THE LIN KUEI, A RARE
CLAN OF CHINESE
NINJA-TYPE
ASSASSINS



SCORPION

REAL NAME:
UNKNOWN
AGE: 32
HEIGHT: 6' 2"
WEIGHT: 210
HAIR: BLACK
EYES: VARIES
LEGAL STATUS:
SCORPION IS A
REINCARNATED
SPECTER AND HAS
NO LEGAL STATUS
KNOWN RELATIVES:
WIFE AND CHILD IN
FORMER LIFE
BIRTHPLACE:
IN FORMER LIFE —
UNKNOWN
AS SCORPION — HELL
OCCUPATION:
IN FORMER LIFE —
UNKNOWN
AS SCORPION — A LOST
SOUL HELL BENT ON
REVENGE



GORO

AGE: 2000
HEIGHT: 8' 2"
WEIGHT: 550
HAIR: BLACK
EYES: RED
LEGAL STATUS:
EARTH — NONE
OUTWORLD — PRINCE
OF KUATAN
KNOWN RELATIVES:
KING GORDAK, FATHER
QUEEN MAI, MOTHER
GORO ALSO HAS 7
WIVES
BIRTHPLACE: KUATAN,
4TH ASTRAL PLANE OF
SHOKAN, REALM OF
THE OUTWORLD
OCCUPATION: PRINCE
OF KUATAN, RULER
SUPREME OF
SHOKAN'S ARMIES





JOHN BOBAS
ARTIST
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